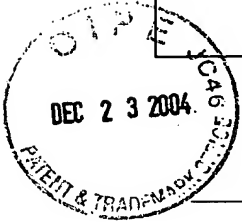


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 20, 2004 Signature: Michael J. Doherty

(Michael J. Doherty)

Docket No.:
SPINE 3.0-455 CONT II
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Zubok et al.

Application No.: 10/776,656

Filed: February 11, 2004

For: CERVICAL DISC REPLACEMENT

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: Group Art Unit: 3738
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: Examiner: C. L. Miller
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MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 24, 2004,
please amend the above-identified application as follows: